

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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EUR/IB:JSMITH (DRAFT)

M/FRM/BP:MMCONLIN (SUBS)

EUR/EX:RGDEASON

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R 121941Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136476

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XG

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF RFE/RL

REF: STATE 107371, 134207; MADRID 5960

1. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT THERE HAS BEEN CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT COMPOSITION SINCE EMBASSY ACTION REPORTED MADRID'S 5960, DEPARTMENT DESIRES THAT EMBASSY, PRIOR TO GOVERNMENT MINISTERS' SUMMER DEPARTURES IN MID-JULY, REVIEW AGAIN AT A HIGHER LEVEL U.S. NEED FOR SPANISH GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF CONTINUATION OF RFE AND RL. IN LIGHT OF CONGRESSIONAL RESISTANCE TO ADMINISTRATIONS'S \$50 MILLION FY 1974 FUNDING REQUEST, AND RAPIDLY RISING COST OF DEUTSCHEMARKS BOTH RADIOS ARE FACING VERY SERIOUS SITUATION.

2. IN DISCUSSING SITUATION, EMBASSY MAY CONVEY INFORMATION IN PARA. 4 OF STATE 134207, INDICATING THAT A NUMBER OF EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS ARE CONSIDERING WAYS TO SUPPORT
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CONTINUATION OF RFE/RL. (FYI: EMBASSY SHOULD

NOT ALLUDE TO POSSIBLE JOINT EXAMINATION OF THIS QUESTION
BY OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS AS IT IS NOT YET KNOWN IF
IT WILL TAKE PLACE OR WHAT COUNTRIES WOULD BE ASKED TO
PARTICIPATE BY THOSE TAKING THE INITIATIVE. IN ANY EVENT,
MOST LOGICAL TYPE OF SPANISH CONTRIBUTION, ELIMINATION OF
ANNUAL \$285,000 FEE PAID BY RL, WOULD NOT REQUIRE

COORDINATION WITH OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS.)

3. RECOMMEND CONSULTATIONS WITH RL REPRESENTATIVE PRIOR
TO RENEWED EFFORT. ROGERS

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